

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement dated September 30, 2003, Applicants elect the invention of Species (x), corresponding to Figs. 22 and 22A, claims 1-4, 10, 12, 14, 15, 28, 29, 31, 32, 63 (now rewritten as claim 81) and 68-72, and new claims 73-101. The election is made without traverse.

Applicants have cancelled the non-elected claims without prejudice.

Support for the new claims 73-101 can be found in the original claims, in Figs. 22 and 22A, and in text that is directly or indirectly related to Figs. 22 and 22A, see e.g. pages 20 and 21 of the specification. No new matter has been introduced by the proposed amendments.

The amendment directs Claim 1 to a suspension device for a container useful to package consumable contents, in which a suspension device comprises a ring portion engageable with the rim of the container and an inwardly positioned flexible suspending element is arranged to be raised from an as-formed position to a raised position to a raised position to be engaged by a support.

Claim 1, and its dependent claims 2, 3, 10 and 12, while reading on the elected species 22-22A, are generic to e.g. the species of Figs. 20, 21-21A, 23-23 and 24-24A. Dependent claim 14 and 15, reading on the elected species of Figs. 22-22A, are generic e.g. to species of Figs. 20, 21-21A and 23-23B.

The amendment directs Claim 28 to a suspension device for a container useful to package consumable contents in which a suspension device comprises a ring portion engageable with the rim of the container and an inwardly positioned suspending element is located to suspend the container at a tilted position.

Claim 28 and dependent claims 29, 31 and 32 read on the elected species, being generic as well to the species of Figs. 20, 21-21A and 23-23B.

Added claims 73-75 claim the package per se, while claims 68-72 have been amended to depend from claim 73, combining the package with the claimed rack features.

Dependent claim 76 is directed to the suspension device including a central panel forming a closure while further dependent claims 77-80 and claim 63 (now rewritten as claim 81) bring out advantageous features of the central panel.

The further new claims, all readable on the elected species, have generic aspects as well.

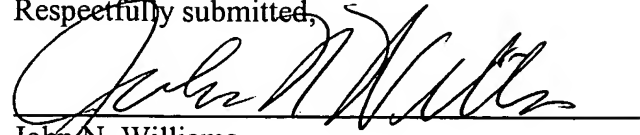
Applicant : Jeffrey T. Mannion et al.
Serial No. : 10/052,210
Filed : January 16, 2002
Page : 10 of 10

Attorney's Docket No.: 11578-006001

Please apply any charges to Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 11578-006001.

Date: October 30, 2003

Respectfully submitted,


John N. Williams
Reg. No. 18,948

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

20746352.doc